



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
VIRTUAL FELLOWS PROGRAM
PROJECT DESCRIPTION
BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS**



Boko Haram Insight Project

This project seeks a Virtual Fellow to serve with the Bureau of African Affairs, Front Office.

Office: AF/FO – Bureau of African Affairs, Front Office

Fellow Location: The Fellow will serve virtually. Relocation is not required.

Project Name: Boko Haram Insight Project

Position Title: Counter Boko Haram Researcher (possible speaker on historical development, structure, and aims of Boko Haram)

Project Description: To review existing information and conduct interviews to develop new information that would be synthesized in a written product and possible speaker/discussion to advance USG understanding of the history and impact of Boko Haram and define the socio-economic-political-cultural drivers of the Boko Haram phenomenon. Identify what Nigeria and the other Lake Chad Basin countries can do in the short, medium, and long term to address/resolve these drivers, and how the U.S. and other international partners can be most helpful in these efforts.

Potential Fellow Taskings:

- To review, analyze and summarize current research on the drivers of Boko Haram in Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, and Niger;
- Conduct interviews with subject matter experts, international and local organizations or researchers, and identify new or current information on the drivers of Boko Haram;
- Identify what the target countries need to do in the short, medium and long term to address drivers of Boko Haram;

- Draft a written product that succinctly identifies key drivers of Boko Haram and highlights any differences across the affected countries as well as suggestions for how the U.S. or other international partners can have an impact for discussion and review within the USG;
- Possibly organize and lead a USG discussion of the findings of the research and review work.

Project-specific Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Knowledge of West or Central Africa;
- Broad understanding of the dynamics of insurgent groups and Islam also;
- Strong research and writing skills important;
- Experience conducting interviews for research;
- Knowledge of Hausa or French useful

Other: The Fellow **must be a U.S. citizen.**

Suitability Determination/Security Clearance: None required. The Virtual Fellow will not require access to OpenNet. The duties associated with this project will be performed using only widely available open source materials, information, and technologies.

Remuneration: The Virtual Fellow will serve pursuant to a Gratuitous Services Agreement. The Department assumes no responsibility for providing any salary or benefits to the Fellow in connection with participation in the Virtual Fellows Program.